annually in Minto River Basins Draining into Bangladesh & Mayanmar followed by 13,636 cubic metre annually in Brahmaputra-Barak Sub-basin.

(c) The Ravi and Beas Water Dispute between the State of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and Cauvery Water Disputes between the States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry were referred to Tribunals under the provisions of Inter State Water Dispute (ISWD) Act, 1956 in April, 1986 and June 1990 respectively. The Central Government in 2002 has received requests under Section 3 of the said Act from the States of Goa and Karnataka respectively for referring to the Tribunals the disputes relating to sharing of water of Mahadayi/ Madevi river and sharing of surplus water of Krishna river for adjudication and decision.

(d) The Central Government endeavours to resolve the dispute by negotiations, failing which the dispute is referred to a Tribunal at the request of party States as per the provision of ISWD Act, 1956 for adjudication. The said Act has been amended on March 28, 2002 to provide for time-bound adjudication of disputes by the Tribunals. Also as per the amended Act, the decision of the Tribunal, after its publication in the Official Gazette, shall have the same force as an order or decree of the Supreme Court.

Sustainable Water Security System

750. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps Government propose to take for developing a sustainable water security system for the country; and

(b) what would be the cost for conservation of water and its sustainable and equitable use for domestic agricultural and industrial purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) National Water Resources Council has adopted the revised National Water Policy-2002 in April 2002 wherein, emphasis has been laid on the conservation and preservation of water resources, optimal utilization of the existing water resources infrastructure, development of new resources with active participation of all the stakeholders in

various facets of water resources management. The policy further provides for inter basin transfer of river water from the flood prone areas to the water scarce areas. These measures aim at sustainable and equitable development of water resources and water security in the country.

There is an average annual precipitation (including snowfall) of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. Out of this, the annual average flow in the river systems of the country is 1869 BCM. The utilizable surface water is assessed as 690 BCM and the annual replenishable ground water resource is about 432 BCM. Out of which 605 BCM is being presently utilised through Surface and Ground water resources. Besides, additional water will be used through inter-basin transfers as envisaged in the National perspective Plan for water resources development. Utilisation of balance water is to be done through various schemes of water resources development and its conservation. Water being a State subject. Plans for conservation of water and its sustainable development are formulated, planned and executed by the State Governments as per their requirements and priorities from their own resources. The cost of development and conservation of water for diverse purposes through conventional and other methods has not been worked out.

Outcome of the Cauvery Water Meeting

751. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting was held in Delhi on Cauvery water issue on 27th August, 2002;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to resolve the longstanding issue of Cauvery water sharing dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The 4th Meeting of Cauvery River Authority, which is charged with giving effect to the implementation of Interim Order of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal